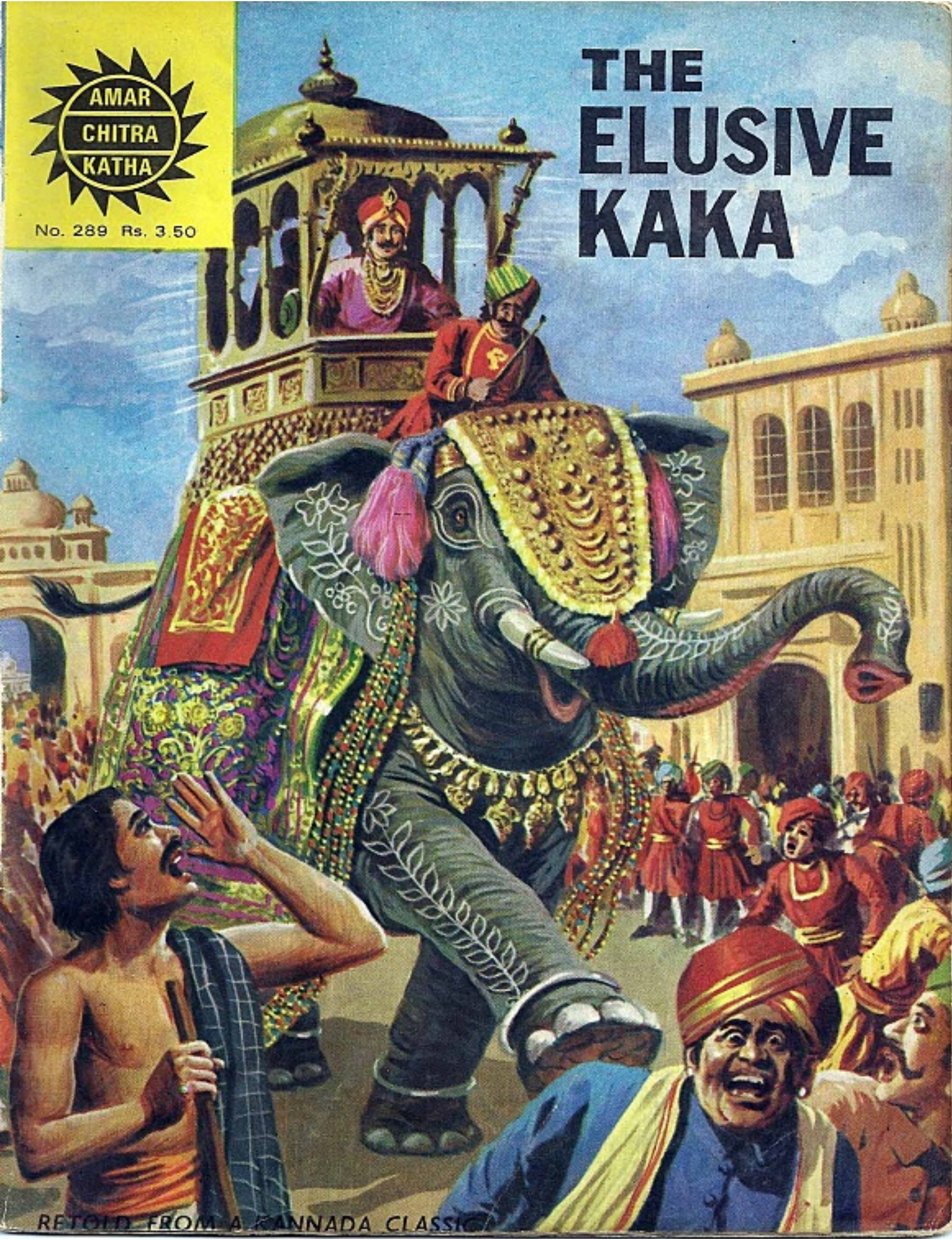




No. 289 Rs. 3.50

# THE ELUSIVE KAKA



RETOLD FROM A KANNADA CLASSIC



## THE ELUSIVE KAKA

The tribals are one of the most exploited social groups of our country. Even those who profess sympathy for them, are often unpardonably ignorant of their values which recognise the importance of preserving the balance of nature. Being the children of nature, as it were, they instinctively – and wisely so – fear urbanisation for the ecological disturbance that it brings in its wake. If they had a choice, and much more, a voice in the matter, they would reject it outright as the hero of our Chitra Katha does.

---

Shri Masti Venkatesha Iyengar (1891 –), who writes under the pen name Srinivasa, is considered the father of the short story in Kannada. He has also made his mark as a poet, novelist, critic and playwright.

This chitra katha has been adapted from his play,  
**KAKANA KOTE.**

We are grateful to Shri C. R. Simha for permitting our illustrator to refer to the stills from his Kannada film, **KAKANA KOTE.**

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**EDITOR**

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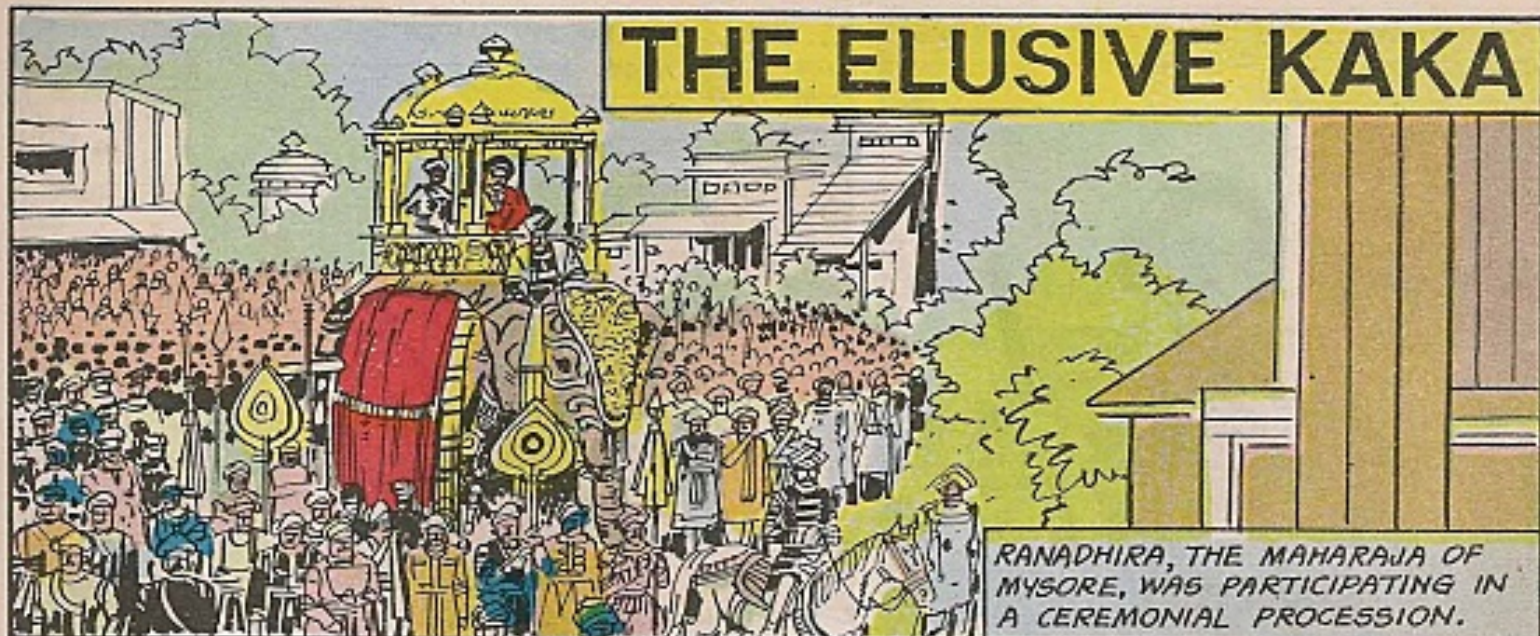
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you buy a  
**Chitra Katha**  
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Over 280 titles  
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# THE ELUSIVE KAKA

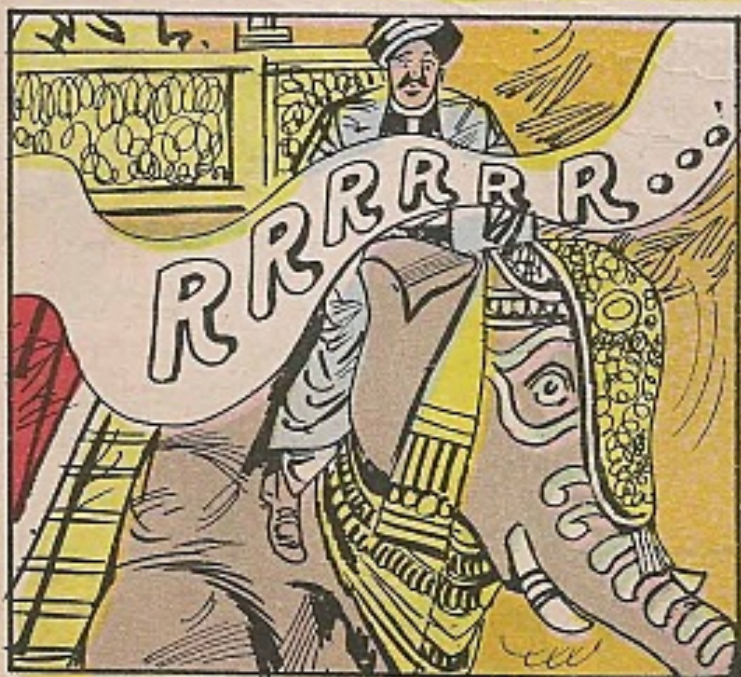


RANADHIRA, THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE, WAS PARTICIPATING IN A CEREMONIAL PROCESSION.

ALL OF A SUDDEN, NAGA, THE ELEPHANT HE WAS RIDING, BROKE INTO A RUN.



THE CROWD PANICKED AND RAN HELTER-SKELTER.



THE STRANGE SOUND SEEMED TO HAVE A SOOTHING EFFECT ON NAGA.





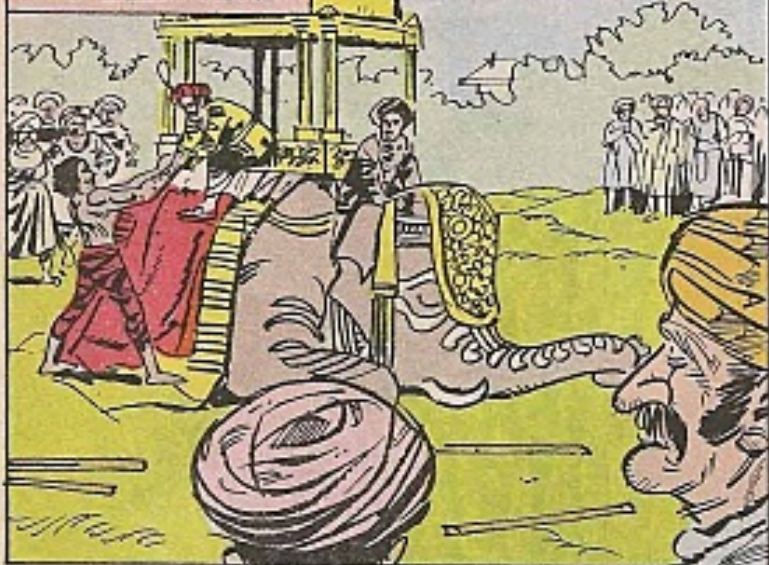
THE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS MAKING THE SOUND...



...WALKED UP TO NAGA AND PATTED HIM.



THEN HE HELPED THE RAJA TO GET OFF THE ELEPHANT.



I OWE MY LIFE TO YOU, YOUNG MAN.



WHO ARE YOU?  
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

I AM KACHA,  
MAHASWAMI\*.  
I COME FROM THE HILLS.





THE MAHARAJA TOOK THE YOUNG MAN TO THE PALACE.

I HAVE BEEN LONGING TO VISIT THE HILL DISTRICT BUT I DON'T KNOW WHEN I WILL BE ABLE TO.



TELL ME, WHY DID YOU COME TO MYSORE?

I WANTED TO GET AWAY, MAHASWAMI.



I HAD ALWAYS WANTED A CHILD. AND I GOT ONE, A DAUGHTER. BUT AS SOON AS SHE WAS BORN...



... MY WIFE DIED.



KACHA, I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL. HOWEVER, ONE DAY YOU WILL GO BACK TO YOUR PEOPLE... TO YOUR CHILD... TO THE HILLS.



MEANWHILE, I WANT YOU TO STAY IN MYSORE AND LOOK AFTER MY ELEPHANTS.





YEARS ROLLED BY.



ONE DAY —

KACHA, COME HAVE A LOOK AT THESE TUSKS. THEY ARE FROM YOUR HILLS.

FROM THE HILLS?



YES. YOUR PEOPLE HAVE SENT ME THEIR ANNUAL TRIBUTE THROUGH THE HEGGADE\* — ONE PAIR OF TUSKS, EIGHT MEASURES OF HONEY AND ONE MAUND† OF SANDALWOOD.



PLEASE COLLECT SOME HONEY FROM THE STORE WHEN YOU LEAVE, KACHA.



I'M SURE YOU WOULD LOVE TO HAVE HONEY FROM YOUR HILLS!

I WOULD, MAHASWAMI.

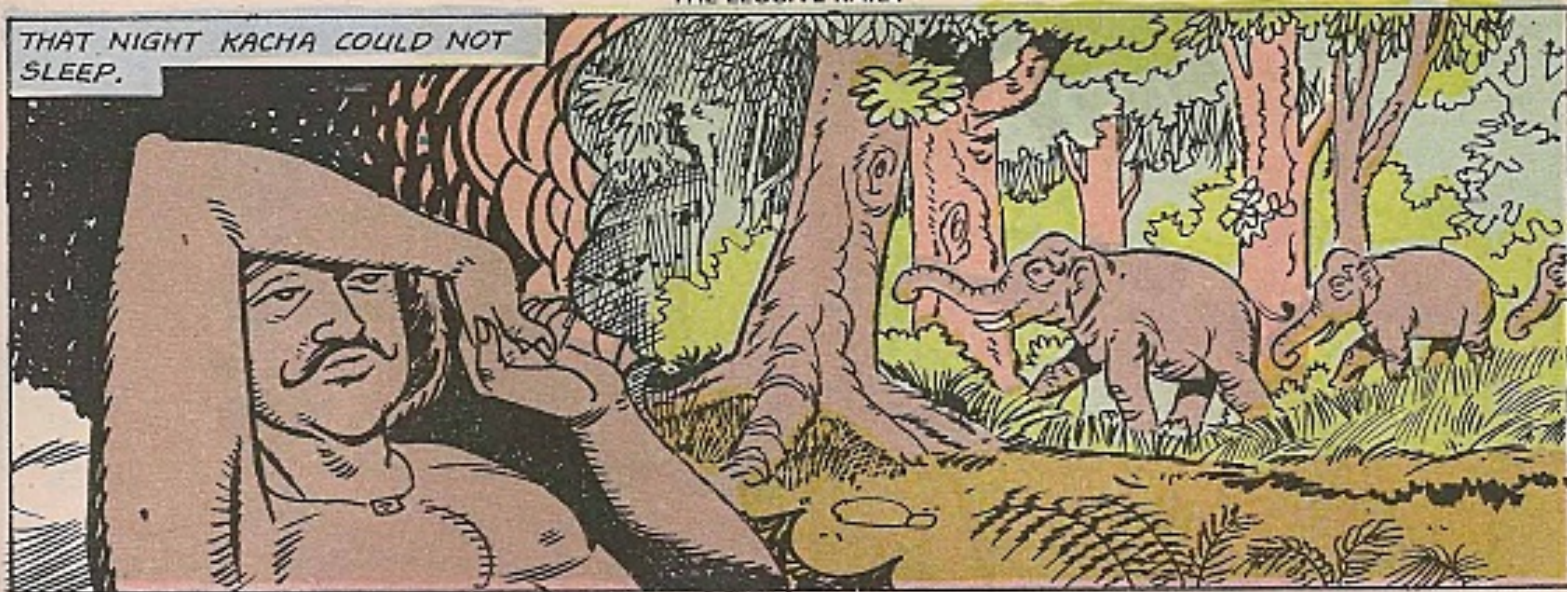


\* FEUDAL LORD WHO WAS AUTHORISED TO COLLECT TRIBUTE FROM THE TRIBALS ON BEHALF OF THE RAJA OF MYSORE.

† IN MYSORE IN THOSE DAYS ONE MAUND WAS EQUAL TO 29.16 (ABOUT 12 KG.)



THAT NIGHT KACHA COULD NOT SLEEP.



THE NEXT MORNING —

MAHASWAMI,  
THE HILLS ARE  
CALLING ME...

I KNEW THIS  
WOULD HAPPEN  
ONCE YOU HAD  
THE HONEY.

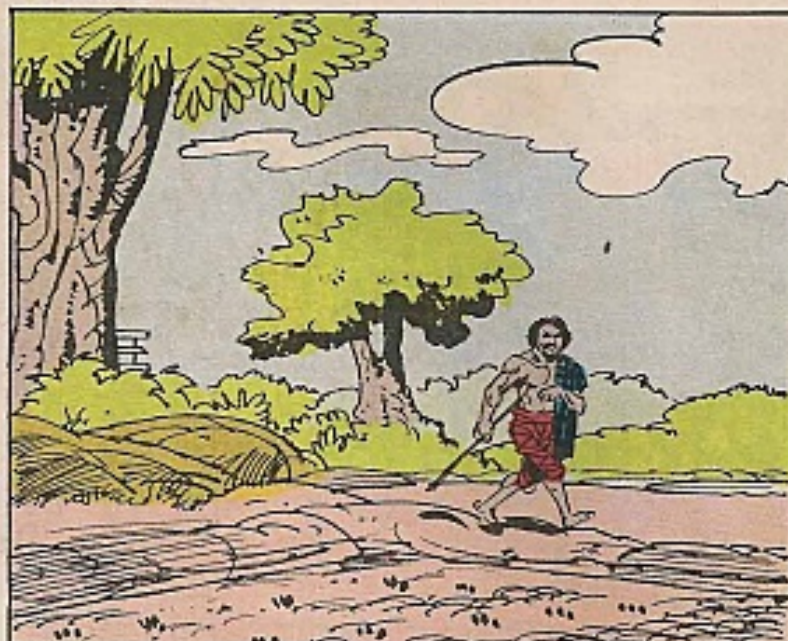


GO BACK, KACHA.  
AND IF YOU EVER  
NEED ME, SEND  
A MESSAGE.  
I WILL COME.





SO KACHA SET  
OUT FOR THE  
HILLS.



AT LAST —

KACHA!

SISTER,  
I AM  
HOME!



YOUR FATHER  
HAS COME BACK,  
MOLLAY! GO,  
GO TO HIM.

MY CHILD!









A FEW MONTHS LATER —



WE WILL HAVE TO SEND HIM FOUR PAIRS OF TUSKS, THIRTY-TWO MEASURES OF HONEY AND FOUR MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.

BUT GOWDA, THE HEGGADE SENDS THE RAJA ONLY ONE PAIR OF TUSKS, EIGHT MEASURES OF HONEY, AND ONE MAUND OF SANDALWOOD.



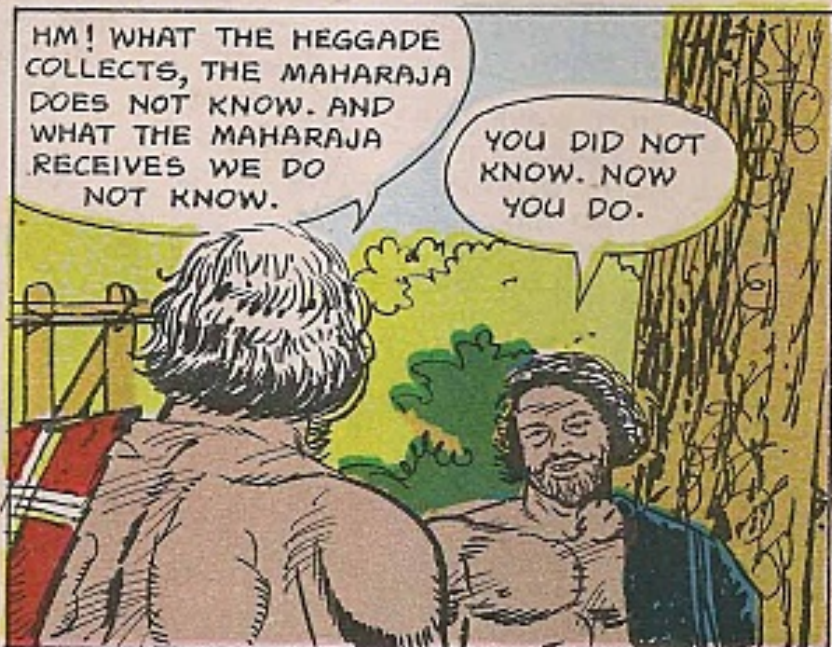
ARE YOU SURE?

OF COURSE, I AM. THE MAHARAJA HIMSELF MENTIONED THIS TO ME.



HM! WHAT THE HEGGADE COLLECTS, THE MAHARAJA DOES NOT KNOW. AND WHAT THE MAHARAJA RECEIVES WE DO NOT KNOW.

YOU DID NOT KNOW. NOW YOU DO.



WHAT WOULD YOU ADVISE, KAKA?

WE'LL TELL THE HEGGADE THAT WE WILL SEND HIM ONLY TWO PAIRS OF TUSKS, SIXTEEN MEASURES OF HONEY AND TWO MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.



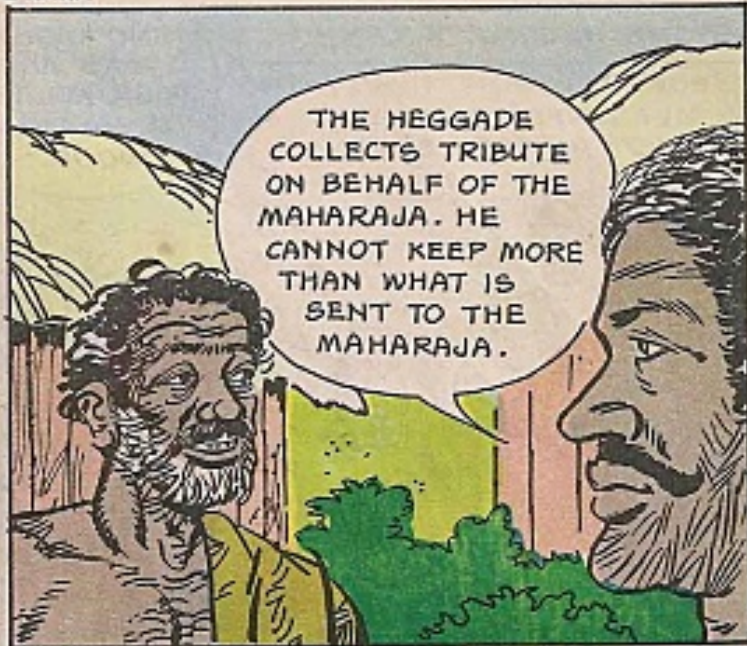


A MESSENGER WAS SENT TO THE HEGGADE TO CONVEY THE DECISION. THE MESSENGER WAS BACK IN NO TIME.

THE HEGGADE SAYS HE EXPECTS THE USUAL TRIBUTE THIS YEAR TOO. THREE PARTS FOR HIM AND ONE FOR THE MAHARAJA.



THE HEGGADE COLLECTS TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF THE MAHARAJA. HE CANNOT KEEP MORE THAN WHAT IS SENT TO THE MAHARAJA.



A FEW WEEKS LATER —

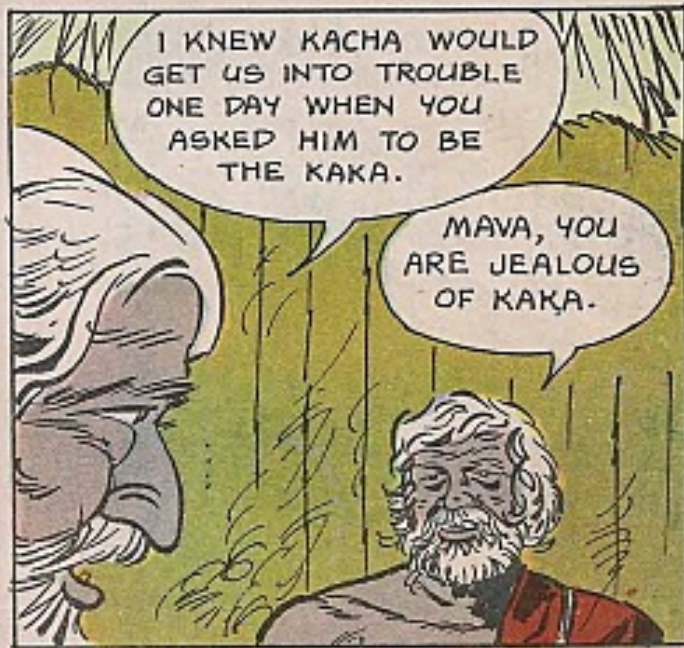
GOWDA, THE HEGGADE IS CAMPING AT THE FOOT OF THE HILLS. HE SEEMS TO BE ANGRY WITH US.

MM-M-M.



I KNEW KACHA WOULD GET US INTO TROUBLE ONE DAY WHEN YOU ASKED HIM TO BE THE KAKA.

MAYA, YOU ARE JEALOUS OF KAKA.



EVEN NOW IT'S NOT LATE. IGNORE THE KAKA'S WORDS AND PAY WHAT THE HEGGADE DEMANDS.

MAYA, YOU WERE THE KAKA ONCE. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT A KAKA'S DECISION IS NEVER QUESTIONED.



LATER, GOWDA AND KAKA LEFT FOR THE HEGGADE'S CAMP. ON THE WAY —

GOWDA, REMEMBER, YOU WILL DO ALL THE TALKING. AND YOU KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

YES, KAKA.





AT THE HEGGADE'S CAMP —

GOWDA, I WANT THIRTY-TWO MEASURES OF HONEY, NOT A DROP LESS!

AND EIGHT TUSKS AND FOUR MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.

SIR, WE ARE PREPARED TO GIVE WHAT YOU ASK FOR. BUT...

... BUT WHAT?



BUT OUR KAKA SHOULD AGREE.

WHO IS KAKA?



KAKA IS...

I DON'T CARE WHO HE IS. I AM DEALING WITH YOU, GOWDA.

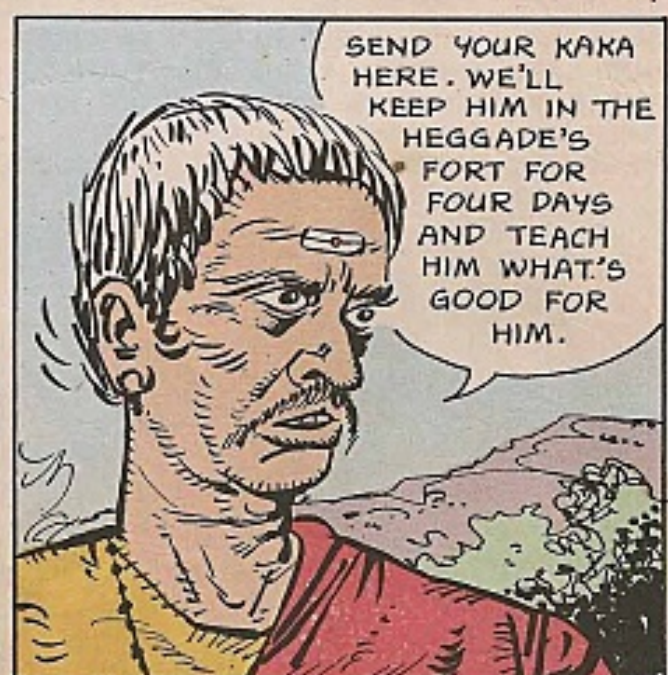


IF YOU DON'T SEND THE DUES BY EVENING WE'LL HAVE TO COME TO YOUR VILLAGE AND COLLECT THEM.

IF KAKA ALLOWS YOU TO.



SEND YOUR KAKA HERE. WE'LL KEEP HIM IN THE HEGGADE'S FORT FOR FOUR DAYS AND TEACH HIM WHAT'S GOOD FOR HIM.





THE KAKA WILL CERTAINLY COME TO YOU IF YOU SO WISH. BUT...

... CAN YOU FACE HIM? YOU WILL SHIVER WITH FRIGHT AT THE MERE SIGHT OF HIM!

FEAR THE KAKA? ME? HAH!

THERE HE IS! LOOK! JUST BEHIND YOU!

WHERE?

YOU ARE AFRAID OF THE KAKA!

STOP THESE ANTICS!

GOWDA, WHO IS THIS MAN?

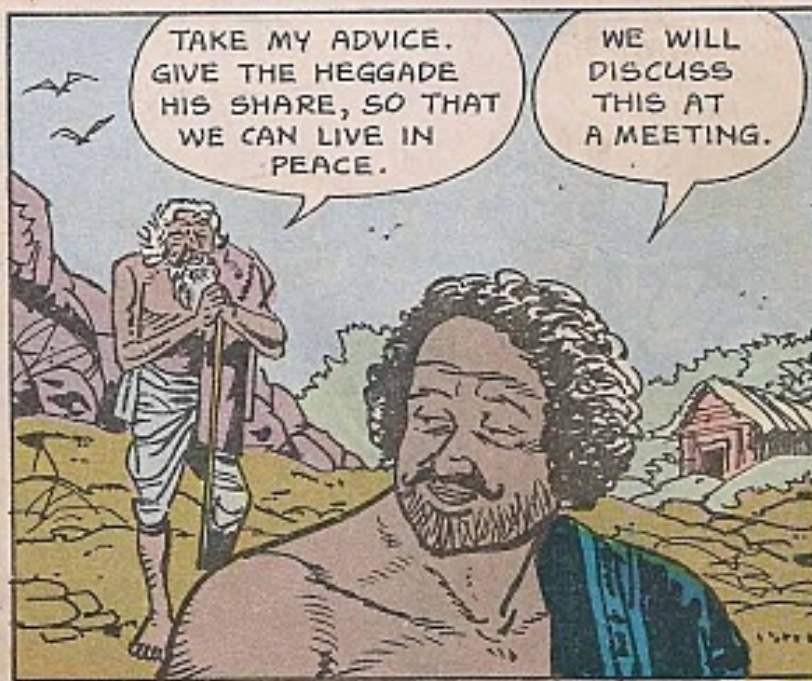
HE IS ...

I AM KACHA, SIR.

THE HEGGADE IGNORED KACHA AND CONTINUED TO SPEAK TO GOWDA.

IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE KAKA, WHOEVER HE IS, BRING HIM HERE. I WILL TALK TO HIM.







AT THE MEETING —

THE HEGGADE SAYS  
WE MUST GIVE HIM  
WHAT HE DEMANDS  
OR QUIT THE  
HILLS.



TODAY THE HEGGADE DEMANDS  
FOUR MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.  
TOMORROW HE MAY DEMAND  
FORTY. HE MAY DEMAND TEAK  
WOOD TOO. HE MAY DEMAND  
MORE TUSKS AND COMPEL  
US TO CAPTURE AND KILL  
ELEPHANTS.

AND HE IS QUITE  
CAPABLE OF MAKING  
SUCH DEMANDS.



THE HEGGADE  
IS FROM THE  
TOWN. HE DOES  
NOT LOVE THE  
FOREST.



WE ARE THE CHILDREN  
OF THE FOREST. THE  
FOREST GIVES US  
WHAT WE NEED. AND  
WE SHOULD NOT  
TAKE FROM THE  
FOREST MORE THAN  
WE NEED.









# Hooray! Hooray! It's a Goldspotting day!



NO PRIZING  
COULD EVER DO ME JUSTICE.  
BUT KEEP TRYING.



Trkaya GS. 18.83



I SEE THAT  
USING YOUR MOUTH  
CAN ALSO BE  
ART!

WE'RE ALL  
GOLDSPOTTERS.

WE'RE GOING  
GOLDSPOTTING.

HURRAY!

THERE'S  
A BIG BEAR AHEAD  
FOR THE WINNER!

Fun means Goldspotting





50 Prizes  
to be  
won

# AMAR CHITRA KATHA

## QUIZ CONTEST 9

**B** THE GARDENER WANTS US  
TO WATER HIS GARDEN  
WHILE HE IS AWAY.



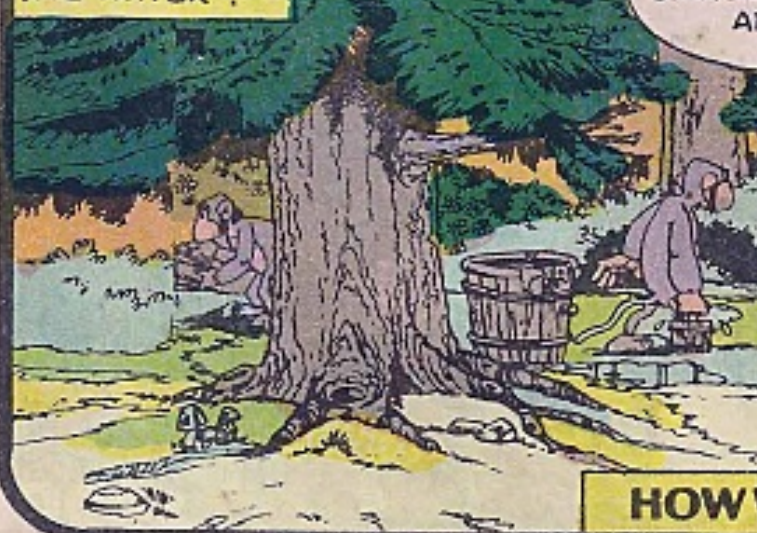
WHAT  
FUN!

WHEN CAN WE  
START?

RIGHT AWAY!  
GO FETCH THE  
WATER!



WHEN THEY CAME BACK WITH  
THE WATER —



SOME TREES ARE  
SMALL AND SOME  
ARE BIG!

THAT'S RIGHT!  
HOW MUCH WATER  
SHOULD WE GIVE  
TO EACH TREE?



**HOW WOULD YOU SOLVE THE PROBLEM?**

**A**

LONG AGO TWO TREES  
LIVED IN PEACE AND  
FRIENDSHIP IN A FOREST  
WHICH WAS FULL OF WILD  
BEAST.



I CANNOT  
THESE A  
I WILL D  
THEM A



BUT THE  
NOT AGR

THE NE



WHAT

### SOLUTIONS TO ACK QUIZ NO. 8

- A. — The dhobi covers the donkey with the tiger's skin.  
— The donkey in the tiger's skin brays.

- B. — The Vijaya Stambha should not be shown be  
years after his coronation. (Kumbha was cre  
The Stambha was completed only in 1448).



STAND  
ANIMALS.  
RIVE  
WAY.  
OH, NO!  
PLEASE  
DON'T! THE  
WILD ANIMALS  
PROTECT US AND  
KEEP MEN AWAY.



FIRST TREE DID  
SEE WITH THE SECOND.

IT SHOOK ITSELF VIGOROUSLY,  
MAKING A LOUD NOISE WHICH  
AWOKE THE ANIMALS SLEEPING  
BENEATH IT.

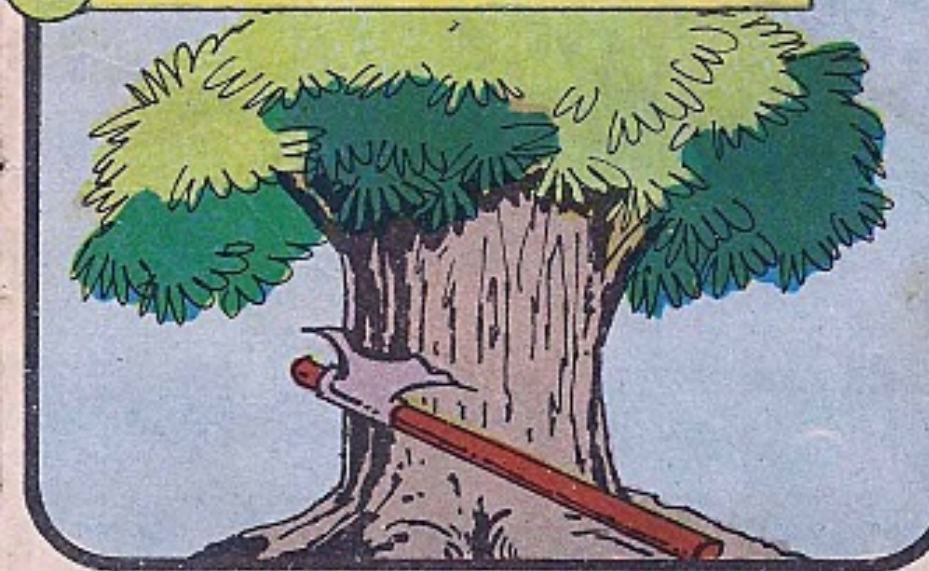


AT MORNING —



DO YOU IMAGINE HAPPENED AFTER THAT?

**C** SUGGEST A SUITABLE CAPTION.



cause it was completed  
owned in 1433.

C. — Been or Pungi (in South India)

Rules:

1. The first fifty all-correct entries will each win a prize of Rs. 10
2. The remaining all-correct entries will each win a colourful picture post card
3. The decision of the judges is final and binding
4. Mail your entries, (entry form given below ) to:

AMAR CHITRA KATHA QUIZ CONTEST  
Post Bag No. 16542  
Cumballa Hill P.O., Bombay-400 026.

## ACK QUIZ 9 ENTRY FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Pin Code \_\_\_\_\_

## MY SOLUTIONS

A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

The last date for receiving  
entries : 31 • 7 • 1983



"Hurray, hurray, it's a holiday  
Hurray, hurray, it's time to play  
So get your pail and your beachball  
And don't forget Gems for one and all!"



**Got a moment? Get a Gem!**

**Cadbury's**  
Chocolates

**Anything's possible with Cadbury's Gems!**



LATER —

NAYAK, TOMORROW  
GOWDA AND KACHA —  
I MEAN THE KAKA —  
WILL BE COMING TO  
TALK WITH ME.

THE ELUSIVE KAKA

WHEN I GIVE YOU THE  
SIGNAL, YOU SHOULD  
TAKE THE KAKA  
PRISONER.

THEN THE HEGGADE  
TURNED TO HIS SON.

CHIKKAIYA,  
YOU WILL  
ASSIST  
NAYAK.

THE FOLLOWING MORNING —

I WANT YOU TO GO  
TO MYSORE, MEET  
THE RAJA AND TELL  
HIM I HAVE SENT  
YOU.

THE MESSENGER LEFT FOR MYSORE,  
THE CAPITAL OF KING RANADHIRA.

THE THREE OF US  
WILL GO AND MEET  
HEGGADE. MONA,  
YOU KNOW WHAT  
YOU HAVE TO DO  
IN CASE ...

YES, KAKA,  
I KNOW.

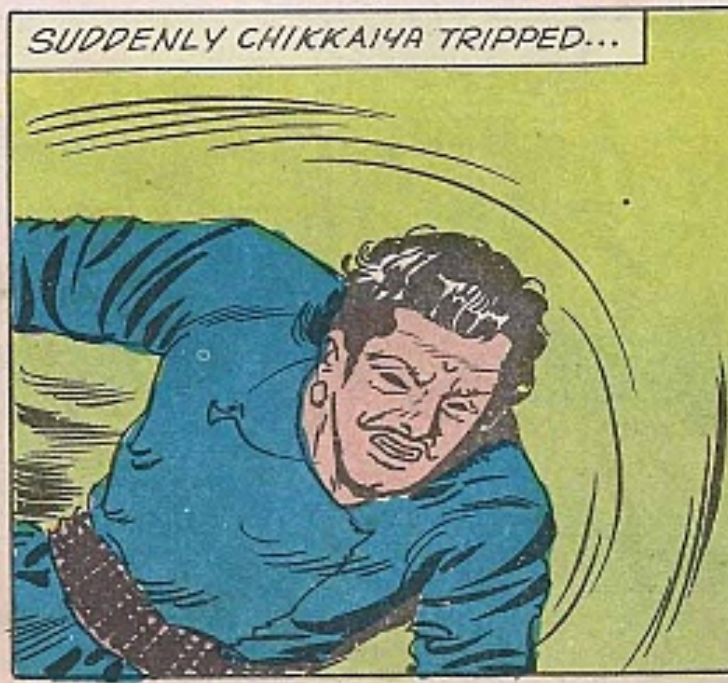


WHEN THEY REACHED THE HEGGADE'S CAMP—





THE NEXT MOMENT —





... AND FELL.

HE HAS  
TWISTED HIS  
ANKLE AND HE IS  
UNCONSCIOUS. WE  
WILL HAVE TO  
CARRY HIM TO  
THE VILLAGE.



OH...



WE ARE  
TAKING YOU  
WITH US.



MEANWHILE AT THE HEGGADE'S CAMP —

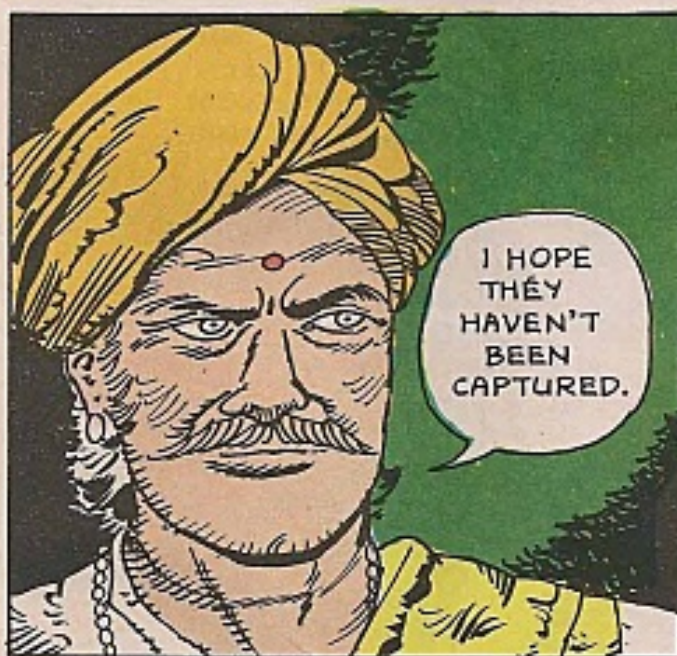
A DEAD SNAKE!  
AND YOU LET  
IT FRIGHTEN  
YOU!

!...!...



DO YOU KNOW  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO MY SON AND  
THE CLERK?

THEY RAN  
AFTER THOSE  
RASCALS!

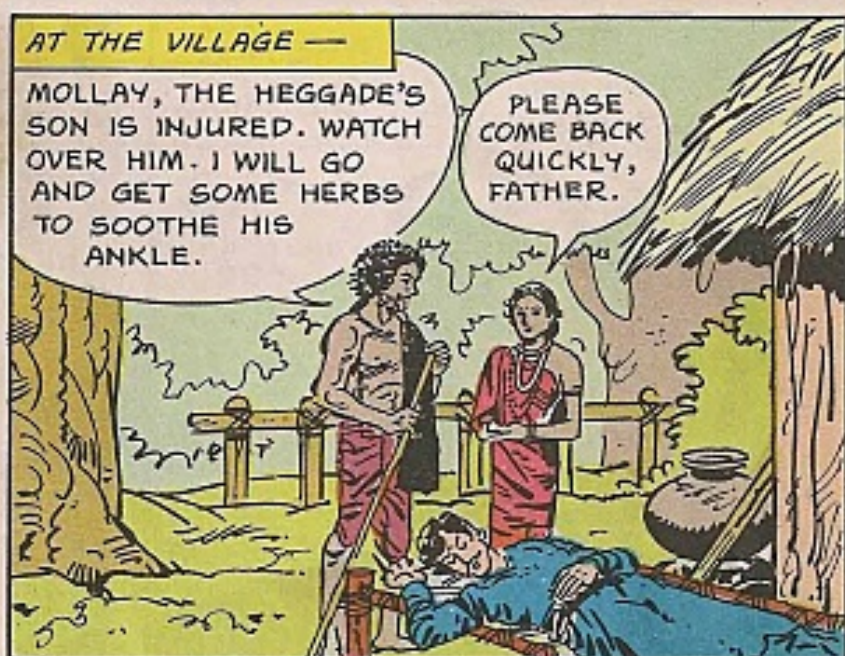


I HOPE  
THEY  
HAVEN'T  
BEEN  
CAPTURED.

AT THE VILLAGE —

MOLLAY, THE HEGGADE'S  
SON IS INJURED. WATCH  
OVER HIM. I WILL GO  
AND GET SOME HERBS  
TO SOOTHE HIS  
ANKLE.

PLEASE  
COME BACK  
QUICKLY,  
FATHER.



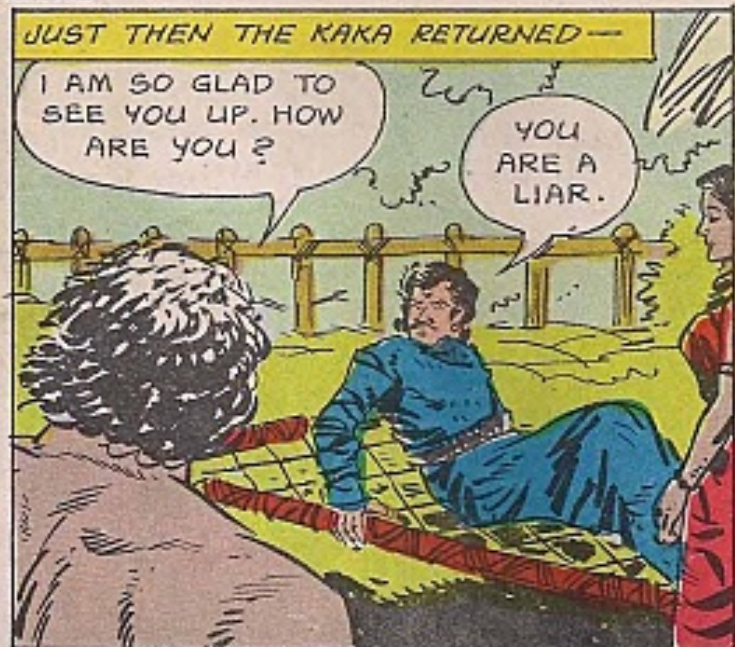
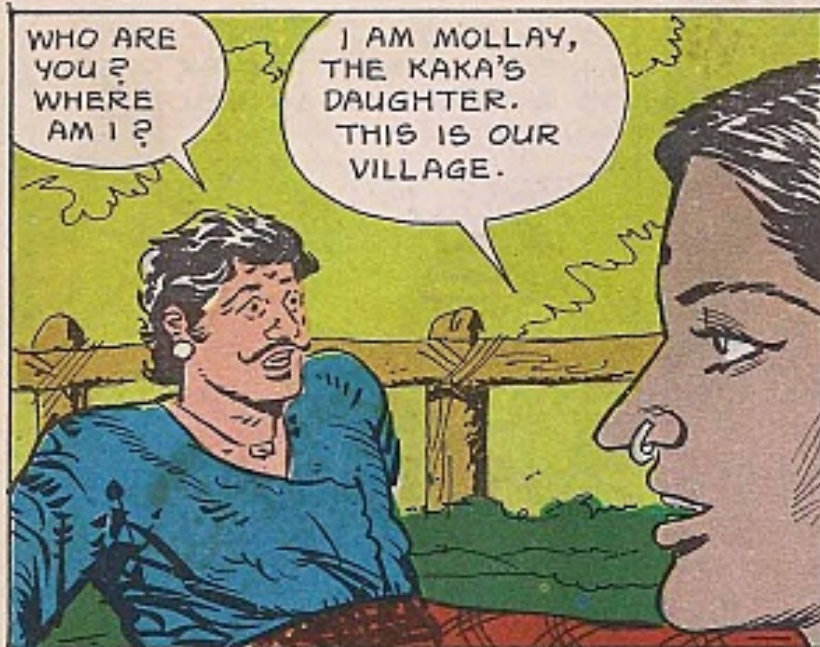
AAAH...

A SHORT WHILE LATER —

HE'S  
OPENING  
HIS EYES!











MONA LEFT IMMEDIATELY.

THE THREAT SHOULD HOLD HIM BACK FOR A FEW DAYS. MEANWHILE THE RAJA WILL ARRIVE AND SETTLE THE DISPUTE.



MOLLAY NURSED THE HEGGADE'S SON BACK TO HEALTH. WITHIN A FEW DAYS HE WAS ABLE TO STAND.

NOW YOU WON'T NEED ME ANYMORE.



MOLLAY! I...I NEED YOU... FOREVER.



MEANWHILE, THE GOWDA AND THE KAKA WERE GETTING RESTLESS.

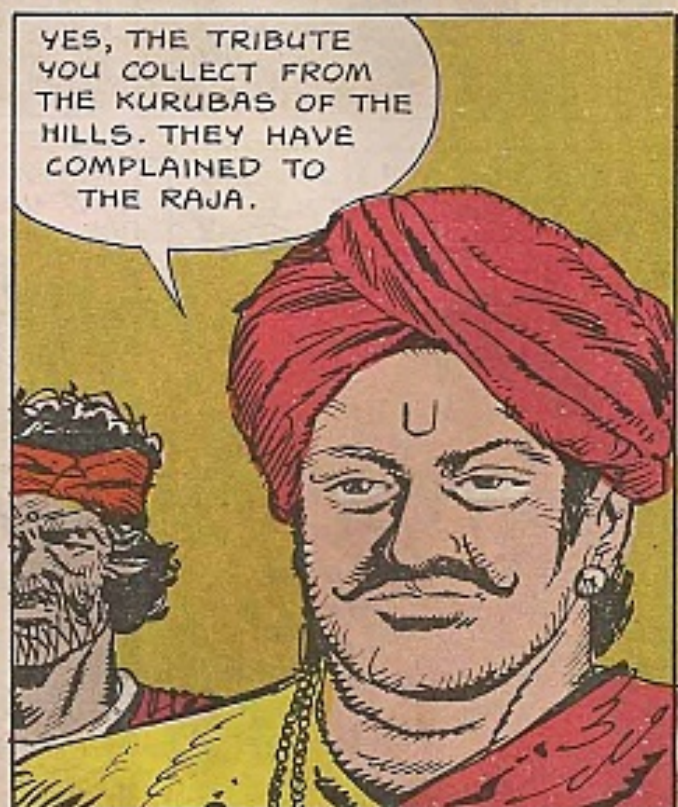
THE MAHARAJA HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO OUR PLEA.



MAYBE HE IS TOO BUSY.

BUT HE PROMISED ME HE WOULD COME IF I EVER NEEDED HIM.





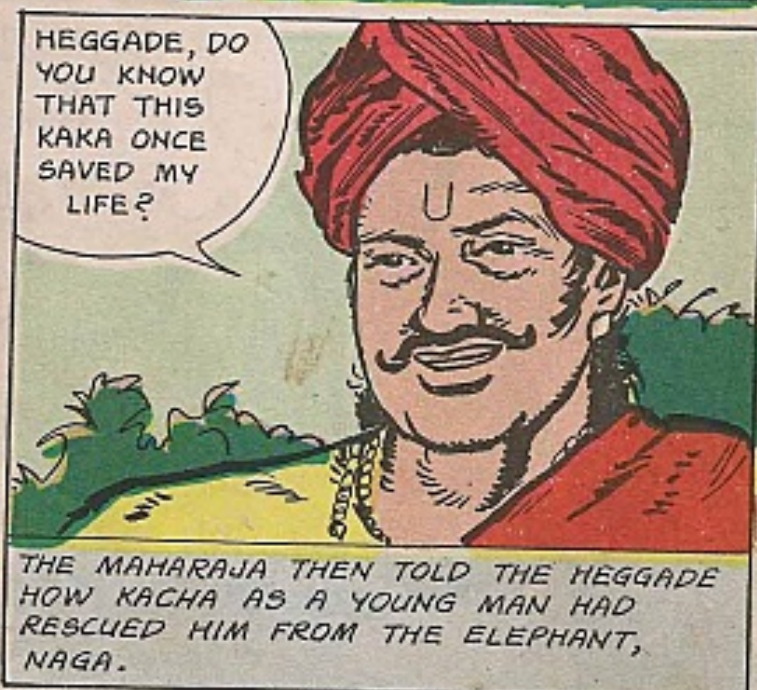
















THEN —








HENCEFORTH THE KURUBAS OF THE HILLS WILL PAY THEIR TRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO ME.




I GIFT THIS TERRITORY TO KACHA'S DAUGHTER. HER HUSBAND WILL BE THE NEW HEGGADE.




BUT SHE IS NOT YET MARRIED.

SHE WILL SOON BE. SHE WILL MARRY...




...HEGGADE'S SON.

MY LORD!



LOOK AT THEM. THEY, OBVIOUSLY HAVE NO OBJECTION.



WHAT ABOUT THE PARENTS?

WE ABIDE BY YOUR DECISION.







THE SWEETEST, BIGGEST STAR AROUND  
**nutrine**

**Superstar**

ASSORTED TOFFEES  
DELICIOUS FLAVOURS

SUPER SIZE  
SUPER TASTE

TWIN TREAT

SUPERSTAR

TOP CREAM

A TERRIFIC TREAT IN EVERY SWEET



India's largest selling sweets

Nutrine Confectionery Company Private Limited, Chittoor, A.P.





# POPPINS TANTRA

Ram and Shyam  
have a tale to tell,  
Listen kids  
and listen well.



PARLE



Bunny waking early one morn  
Planned to set out early that day,  
But saw as he went on his way  
A sight most wondrous and gay.

It was with surprise and delight  
That what innocent Bunny saw,  
Was the favourite dish of his life:  
Crisp, juicy carrots—four.

So drooling, he skipped towards  
This fabulous unexpected treat,  
But a noose fell around his neck,  
It was foxy's trap so neat.

"Ha, ha, ha!" Foxy laughed,  
Poor Bunny's confusion to see.  
For he'd thought those fake carrots real,  
"He's going to be eaten by me."

So quality, dear friends, don't you see,  
Is really what matters at all.  
Fakes give tummy-aches and more  
While Poppins above all stand tall.



So just don't let fakes fool you ever,  
And you know there are so many around.  
Only Poppins have silver-striped covers,  
Only Poppins in excellence abound.